

ABSTRACT OF THE INVENTION

A haptic feedback planar touch control used to provide input to a computer. A touch
5 input device includes a planar touch surface that inputs a position signal to a processor of the
computer based on a location of user contact on the touch surface. The computer can position a
cursor in a displayed graphical environment based at least in part on the position signal, or
perform a different function. At least one actuator is also coupled to the touch input device and
outputs a force to provide a haptic sensation to the user contacting the touch surface. The touch
10 input device can be a touchpad separate from the computer's display screen, or can be a touch
screen. Output haptic sensations on the touch input device can include pulses, vibrations, and
spatial textures. The touch input device can include multiple different regions to control
different computer functions.